



City of Annapolis

Department of Neighborhood & Environmental Programs
160 Duke of Gloucester Street
Annapolis, MD 21401-2517

DNEP@annapolis.gov • 410-263-7946 • Fax 410-263-9158 • TDD use MD Relay or 711 • www.annapolis.gov

Annapolis Environmental Commission

May 18, 2011

The regular meeting of the Environmental Commission of the City of Annapolis was held on May 18, 2011 at the 145 Gorman Street. Chair Pogell called the meeting to order at 6:30p.m.

Present: Chair Pogell, **Co-Vice Chair** DeLuca, **Co-Vice Chair** Kamenoff, Butler, Rinaldi, Kissel Rachfal

Absent: Haas, Weber

Staff: Broadbent, Savidge

Guest: Christina van Rosenhaus-Severn House

II. February 16, 2011 and March 16, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Pogell moved approval of the February 16 minutes as submitted and March 16, 2011 meeting minutes as amended. Ms. Butler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously in a vote of 6-0. (Ms. Rachfal was not present at voting)

Reserve at Quiet Waters/Katherine Properties

Ms. Pogell spoke with Mr. Tom Smith, P&Z regarding the Planning Commission finalizing their review comments on the Reserve at Quiet Waters project. He asked that the AEC provide a final draft of their comments for inclusion into the record. There was discussion on the protocol of including the City logo on comments and recommendations AEC submits on proposed actions such as RQW.

Ms. Pogell noted that the AEC described its comments as preliminary because they did not include reference to the City Code, the Comprehensive Plan and other additional supporting data or findings. Regarding Planning and Zoning's response to the questions and concerns raised in the AEC comments, Mr. Savidge responded that there is concurrence that there are important environmental features on the site, and that himself and Tom Smith will be meeting with MDE to investigate the potential bog and other wetland features on the property.

Ms. Pogell noted that the Public Relations representative for the Katherine Property is pleased with how the project has been developed and presented thus far. The project is scheduled for a work session on the Planning Commission May 19 agenda and several Commission members are planning to attend.

III. Regular Business Before the Commission

Outreach

a. AEC Newsletter

Ms. Kamenoff intends to prepare one more newsletter before her departure. She noted that Inna Young, City IT, has volunteered to train the new IT subcommittee chair. Ms. Rachfal volunteered to work with Ms. Young. Ms. Kamenoff explained that Ms. Raftovich will continue to update the website and the Commission will be expected to provide links. She agreed to work with Ms. Rachfal on the preparation of the June newsletter and will contact her for a possible meeting date.

b. Maryland Wind Energy ACT Resolution/Letter

This agenda item was deferred to the June 15, 2011 meeting.

c. Rain Barrel/Compost Bin Sale/AEC Installation Demos & Outreach

This agenda item was deferred to the June 15, 2011 meeting.

d. May 1 Interfaith Event at Towne Center

Ms. DeLuca reported that the InterFaith event went well but was not well attended due to the rain. She suggested at the event debriefing that it be moved to City Dock in an effort to draw a bigger crowd downtown and emphasize the water. She noted that the Committee did not give the suggestion consideration and has been invited back to Towne Center next year.

e. June 18, 2011 TRI-It Family Festival at Truxtun Park

Ms. Pogell reminded the Commission that they have agreed to participate at the June 18, 2011 TRI IT Festival from 11:00am – 3:00pm at Truxtun Park.

Action Items

a. Eco-Center

This agenda item was deferred to the June 15, 2011 meeting.

b. Grant Writing

Ms. Pogell noted that the Commission might want to consider grant opportunities for programs for the Newtowne 20 children.

c. Recycling Education Campaign

Ms. Rinaldi reported that two of the big blue recycling bins at the Truxtun Park went missing. She explained that two yellow bins were put in to replace the two missing bins.

d. Stormwater Eastport Watershed Alliance

Ms. Pogell reported that the grant for the Eastport Watershed Alliance was denied but there will be a meeting with CBT to go over the reason for the denial.

e. Annapolis Neck Proposed Development Visit

This agenda item was deferred to the June 15, 2011 meeting.

f. Crystal Spring Farm LLC Development Proposal

This agenda item was deferred to the June 15, 2011 meeting.

DNEP

a. AEC Business Card

This agenda item was deferred to the June 15, 2011 meeting.

b. April 30, 2011 Deadline for Submission of AEC Expenses Invoices

This agenda item was deferred to the June 15, 2011 meeting.

c. Budget

This agenda item was deferred to the June 15, 2011 meeting.

d. Sea Rise Information

Mr. Savidge distributed copies of an Annapolis Sea Rise: Issues and Options presentation that was given at a City Dock meeting. The sea rise presentation includes information on the average flood levels; the frequency of flooding; and measures to address the expected increase in the frequency of flooding.

V. OLD BUSINESS

a. City Council Environmental Matters Committee

This agenda item was deferred to the June 15, 2011 meeting.

b. Lease for Annapolis Boat Shows - Recycling

Ms. Pogell noted that the Annapolis Boat Show would include recycling bins this year. The Commission agreed to send a "thank you" note to the Show Managers for participating in the recycling program this year as well as to note it in the newsletter.

V. NEW BUSINESS

a. Stormwater Utility Fee Report

Ms. Broadbent provided documentation on the status of the Stormwater Utility fee indicating that the fee is moving forward and has received good feedback from the Finance Committee as well as the Environmental Matters Committee. The fees will double for residential users from \$22 to \$40. There will be a tiered fee based on the size of the property for commercial users. The funds collected will be placed into a restricted account to be used for capital improvement projects that are specific to projects that increase the City's compliance with the Total Maximum Daily Loading (TMDL) pollution legislation that is part of the Watershed Improvement Program (WIP). Also, the credits given will be for stormwater features installed no earlier than Year 2000 and only for those which the City will receive credits towards the TMDL legislation. She explained that the list of Best Management Practices for phase II of WIP does not include rain barrels and Mr. Biba who is participating in the AACO pilot group, would encourage them to do the scientific analyses to determine if the installation of a rain barrel can be considered a BMP. She is proposing the BMP credits be good for two years. She indicated that residents would receive a copy of the BMP list. The increase is not intended to be used for daily operations. The fee increase is scheduled for a work session on City Council May 19, 2011 agenda.

b. Participation in Arbor Day, GreenSpace, Earth Day events, etc.

This agenda item was deferred to the June 15, 2011 meeting.

c. Historic Preservation Conference in May

This agenda item was deferred to the June 15, 2011 meeting.

d. Distribution of AEC Survey

This agenda item was deferred to the June 15, 2011 meeting.

e. Severn House Community Rain Barrel

Ms. Rosenhaus of the Severn House community came to the meeting because of her interest in encouraging her community to install rain barrels.

f. Goodbye Chris

The Commission presented Ms. Kamenoff with a citation for her three years of service to the residents of Annapolis.

g. Commission's New Liaison

Ms. Broadbent reported that Ms. Jeanna Beard is the Commission's new liaison.

Adjournment

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm.

Tami Hook, Recorder